

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for presenting a sequence of user interface pages to a user, comprising:

page logic associated with an initial user interface page, wherein the page logic is configured to:

detect the user's activation of a control provided by the initial user interface page; and

form a token representative of the activation of the control; and

a navigation module providing a hierarchical tree of nodes representative of the user interface pages in the sequence, wherein the navigation module is configured to:

receive the token from the page logic; and

determine another user interface page to present to the user by traversing the hierarchical tree of nodes based on a navigation instruction specified by the token;

wherein ~~the navigation module is configured to allow a second hierarchical tree to be plugged into the hierarchical tree, wherein the second hierarchical tree has associated user interface pages, and wherein joining the trees allows user navigation between the sequence of user interface pages and the user interface pages associated with the second hierarchical tree~~ at least two branches within the hierarchical tree are mutually exclusive, the exclusivity comprising a logical OR to restrict traversal of the hierarchical tree to be among nodes associated with only one the at least two mutually exclusive branches.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
2 the control is configured to instruct the apparatus to advance to a next user
3 interface page associated with an appropriate node in the hierarchical tree.

4
5 3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
6 the control is configured to instruct the apparatus to advance to a prior user
7 interface page associated with an appropriate node in the hierarchical tree.

8
9 4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the
10 navigation module further includes history stack logic configured to record the
11 prior user interface page to provide an indication of the prior user interface page
12 upon activation of the control.

13
14 5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
15 the control is configured to instruct the apparatus to advance to one of a plurality
16 of interface pages associated with different respective branching options
17 associated with nodes in the hierarchical tree.

18
19 6. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
20 hierarchical tree includes at least one collection node that includes plural children
21 nodes, said at least one collection node and plural children nodes defining a
22 collection of nodes representative of a grouping of user interface pages within the
23 sequence of user interface pages.

1 7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a behavior of
2 said at least one collection node is governed by a strategy applied to said at least
3 one collection node.

4
5 8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the strategy
6 is dynamically applied to said at least one collection node.

7
8 9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the strategy
9 defines whether said at least one collection node exhibits a branching behavior or
10 a non-branching behavior.

11
12 10. (Original) A computer readable medium including machine readable
13 instructions for implementing the page logic and the navigation module recited in
14 claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting a sequence of user interface pages to a user, comprising:

detecting the user's activation of a control provided by an initial user interface page within the sequence of user interface pages;

forming a token representative of the activation of the control;

sending the token to a navigation module, wherein the navigation module provides a hierarchical tree of nodes representative of the user interface pages in the sequence and wherein ~~the navigation module is configured to allow a second hierarchical tree having nodes associated with additional user interface pages to be joined to the hierarchical tree~~ at least two branches within the hierarchical tree are mutually exclusive, the exclusivity comprising a logical OR to restrict traversal of the hierarchical tree to be among nodes associated with only one the at least two mutually exclusive branches;

receiving the token at the navigation module; and

based on instructions specified by the token, traversing the ~~joined hierarchical tree and second hierarchical tree in the user interface module to determine another user interface page to present to the user from among the sequence of user interface pages associated with the hierarchical tree and the additional user interface pages associated with the second hierarchical tree.~~

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the control instructs the navigation module to advance to a next user interface page in the sequence of user interface pages.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the control instructs the navigation module to advance to a prior user interface page in the sequence of user interface pages.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the navigation module determines the prior user interface page by consulting a history stack that contains a list of user interface pages that have been presented to the user.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the control instructs the navigation module to advance to one of a plurality of interface pages associated with different respective branching options.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the hierarchical tree includes at least one collection node that includes plural children nodes, said at least one collection node and plural children nodes defining a collection of nodes representative of a grouping of user interface pages within the sequence of user interface pages.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 16, further comprising defining the behavior of said at least one collection node by applying a strategy to said at least one collection node in a dynamic fashion.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein
2 the strategy defines whether said at least one collection node exhibits a branching
3 behavior or a non-branching behavior.
4

5 19. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the sequence
6 of user interface pages defines a first wizard, and wherein the method further
7 comprises providing another sequence of user interface pages that defines a
8 second wizard, wherein the first and second wizards share at least one user
9 interface page in common.
10

11 20. (Original) A computer readable medium having machine readable
12 instructions for implementing each of the detecting, forming, sending, receiving,
13 and traversing recited in claim 11.
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a data structure and instructions, comprising:

a hierarchical tree having nodes that represent a sequence of user interface pages in a wizard and a second hierarchical tree plugged into the hierarchical tree, wherein the second hierarchical tree has associated user interface pages, the hierarchical tree and second hierarchical trees including:

at least two mutually exclusive branches, the exclusivity comprising a logical OR to restrict traversal of the hierarchical tree to nodes associated with only one the at least two mutually exclusive branches, wherein selection of one of the two mutually exclusive branches results in display of user interface pages associated with nodes with the selected branch;

one or more deactivated nodes, wherein node deactivation prevents display of one or more optionally displayed pages associated with the one or more deactivated nodes;

at least one dynamic node, wherein characteristics of the at least one dynamic node are determined at run-time and a single dynamic node can function in different ways depending on a strategy associated with it;

a summary collection node, configured to display a sequence of pages, and upon termination of the sequence of pages, to return to an initial summary page presented by the summary collection node;

at least one collection node that defines a collection of user interface pages within the sequence of user interface pages, wherein a behavior of said at least one collection node is defined by a strategy applied to said at least one collection node; and

1 at least one page node that directly represents a corresponding user
2 interface page; and
3 a navigation module configured to allow user navigation between the
4 sequence of user interface pages associated with the hierarchical tree ~~and the user~~
5 ~~interface pages associated with the second hierarchical tree.~~

6
7 22. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the
8 strategy applied to said at least one collection node creates non-branching
9 behavior in the collection of user interface pages.

10
11 23. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein the
12 strategy applied to said at least one collection node creates branching behavior in
13 the collection of user interface pages.